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	Paper No. <i>#13</i>		

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US 20030125540A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2003/0125540 A1**  
Holtzman et al. (43) **Pub. Date: Jul. 3, 2003**(54) **NOVEL GENES ENCODING PROTEINS  
HAVING PROGNOSTIC, DIAGNOSTIC,  
PREVENTIVE, THERAPEUTIC AND OTHER  
USES**(52) **U.S. Cl. .... 536/23.5; 530/350; 530/388.23;  
435/69.5; 435/320.1; 435/325;  
435/6; 435/7.2**(75) **Inventors: Douglas A. Holtzman, Jamaica Plain,  
MA (US); David P. Gearing, Victoria  
(AU); Yang Pan, Bellevue, WA (US)**(57) **ABSTRACT**

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The invention relates to the discovery and characterization of several genes and the polypeptides they encode: thymotaxin (Tango-45), Tango-63d, Tango-63e, Tango-67, and huchordin (Tango-66). Thymotaxin is a new member of the C—C family of chemokines. Tango-63d and Tango-63e are two novel polypeptides within the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) receptor superfamily. Tango-67 is related to a number of growth factors, particularly members of the connective tissue growth factor family. Huchordin is related to chordin, a known protein that is involved in the induction of twinned axes, can completely rescue axial development in ventralized embryos, is a potent dorsalizing factor, and plays a crucial role in regulating cell-cell interactions in the organizing centers of head, trunk, and tail development. The invention encompasses nucleic acid molecules encoding nucleic acids and polypeptides of the invention, or mutant forms thereof that encode dysfunctional receptor polypeptides, vectors containing these nucleic acid molecules, cells harboring recombinant DNA molecules encoding nucleic acids or polypeptides of the invention, or mutant forms thereof, host fusion proteins that include functional or dysfunctional polypeptides of the invention, transgenic animals that express nucleic acids or polypeptides of the invention, screening methods and therapeutic methods employing the nucleic acid molecules and polypeptides described above, substantially purified nucleic acids and polypeptides of the invention, and therapeutic compositions containing these nucleic acid molecules and polypeptides.

(73) **Assignee: Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**(21) **Appl. No.: 10/314,410**(22) **Filed: Dec. 6, 2002****Related U.S. Application Data**(60) **Continuation of application No. 09/811,088, filed on Mar. 16, 2001, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/712,726, filed on Nov. 14, 2000, now abandoned, and which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/757,421, filed on Jan. 10, 2001, now abandoned, and which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/843,651, filed on Apr. 16, 1997, now abandoned, and which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/354,809, filed on Jul. 16, 1999, now abandoned, which is a division of application No. 08/938,365, filed on Sep. 26, 1997, now Pat. No. 5,989,909.****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... C12Q 1/68; G01N 33/53;  
G01N 33/567; C07H 21/04;  
C07K 14/52**